

Message Text

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ACTION AF-04

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INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
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AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEAOAUIY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USINT HAVANA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
COMIDEASTFOR
USCINCEUR
CINCUSNAVEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L DJIBOUTI 1000

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDIP, OEXC, DJ
SUBJ: DJIBOUTI PRIME MINISTER REFLECTIONS ON THE OAU MEETING
AND THE NAM

SUMMARY-DJIBOUTI PRIME MINISTER ABDALLAH KAMIL PLANS ATTEND
BOTH OAU MEETING IN KHARTOUM AND NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE IN
BELGRADE. HE IS SKEPTICAL ABOUT POSSIBILITIES WESTERN EFFORTS
FOSTER DIRECT CONDEMNATION OF CUBA. KAMIL BELIEVES IDEA INTER
AFRICAN DEFENSE FORCE ALSO DOOMED TO FAILURE BECAUSE MOST
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AFRICANS WILL
SEE FORCE AS FRENCH VEHICLE FOR PROTECTING ITS
INTERESTS. HE NEVERTHELESS APPLAUDES RAPID WESTERN SHOW OF
ENERGY TO COUNTERACT RECENT SHABA INVASION.

1. DJIBOUTI PRIME MINISTER ABDALLAH KAMIL, WEARING HIS

FOREIGN MINISTER HAT, DEPARTED DJIBOUTI JULY 7 FOR
NEARLY

ONE MONTH TO ATTEND THE KHARTOUM OAU MEETING. FOLLOWING
A BRIEF REST IN PARIS, HE WILL LATER REPRESENT DJIBOUTI AT
THE BELGRADE NON-ALIGNED MEETING. WITH HIS CHARACTERISTIC
CANDOR, HE PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING VIEWS TO CHARGE DURING
LENGTHY MEETING AT HIS HOME PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE.

2. THE OAU MEETING-KAMIL REGRETTED THAT OAU MEETING
REQUIRES TWO WEEKS OF HIS TIME. HE OBSERVED THAT OAU
PROVIDES READY OUTLET FOR INTERMINABLE AFRICAN PALAVER
AND THAT LITTLE EVER GETS DONE EXCEPT DURING FINAL THREE
DAYS, IF THEN. HE NOTED THAT PRESIDENT HASSAN GOULED
WILL ATTEND CHIEFS OF STATE PORTION OF MEETING.

3. CONDEMNATION OF CUBA-THE DJIBOUTI PRIME MINISTER
PREDICTED THAT ABSOLUTELY NOTHING WOULD COME OF ANY SUCH
INITIATIVE. HE SAID THAT BOTH ALGERIA AND LIBYA (NOT TO
SPEAK OF ANGOLA AND ETHIOPIA) WOULD SHOUT DOWN ANY MOVE IN
THAT DIRECTION. ALTHOUGH KAMIL PERCEIVES A SOVIET/CUBAN
THREAT DIRECTED AT DJIBOUTI, HE SAID THAT DJIBOUTI PLANS
NO REMONSTRANCES. KAMIL STATED THAT THIS PLANNED INACTION
NOT DUE TO FEAR OF SOVIETS/CUBANS PER SE BUT BECAUSE OF
DJIBOUTI'S COMPLICATED RELATIONS WITH ARAB LEAGUE.

4. INTER AFRICAN DEFENSE FORCE-DEFINITELY A NON-STARTER
SO FAR AS KAMIL IS CONCERNED. HE JUDGES THAT SENGHOR
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HAS DESTROYED HIS CREDIBILITY BY SUPPORTING WHAT MOST
AFRICANS BELIEVE WOULD BE FRENCH INSTRUMENT. KAMIL
DOESN'T SEE PRESENCE FRENCH TROOPS IN DJIBOUTI AS AN ISSUE
FOR OAU MEETING. THEY ARE IN DJIBOUTI AT INVITATION LEGAL
GOVERNMENT AND FOLLOWING FORMAL ACCORDS.

5. U.S. ROLE IN AFRICA-ABDALLAH KAMIL SAW U.S. ROLE IN
RECENT SHABA DEFENSE AS VERY POSITIVE BECAUSE IT DEMON-
STRATES A NEW U.S. RESOLVE GXFERALLY LACKING IN RECENT
YEARS. HE REGRETTED THAT SUCH EFFORTS NEEDED TO BE
EXPENDED FOR CORRUPT MOBUTU AND ZAIRE GOVERNMENT WHICH
HE EXPECTS EVENTUALLY TO TOPPLE UNDER ITS OWN WEIGHT.

6. NON-ALIGNED MEETING, BELGRADE-KAMIL SEES NAM AS
ESSENTIALLY ANOTHER HOT AIR SESSION. HOWEVER, HE BELIEVES
DJIBOUTI REPRESENTATION AS NECESSARY TO ESTABLISH CREDENTIALS
WITH ALL GROUPS, INCLUDING THOSE MOST LIKELY TO BE SUPPORTING
ETHIOPIA. AS HE NOTES, WHEN A COUNTRY IS AS WEAK AS DJIBOUTI
IT IS ESSENTIAL TO BE FRIENDS WITH EVERYONE. HE SEES SAME
RESULT FOR ANTI-CUBAN MOVES IN THE NAM.

7. ADDITIONAL NOTE-AS ITINERANT FOREIGN MINISTER, KAMIL
PLANS ACCEPT INVITATION VISIT SOUTH KOREA AND JAPAN IN
AUGUST. THIS WILL BE FOLLOWED BY ATTENDANCE UNGA IN
SEPTEMBER. WE DON'T SEE HOW THIS IS GOING TO INCREASE
HIS EFFECTIVENESS AS PRIME MINISTER, A CONSIDERABLY MORE
CRITICAL ROLE IN DJIBOUTI'S POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT.
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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** LIMDIS

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